[Translation]

NON-AVAILABILITY OF MEDICINES TO CGHS BENEFICIARIES

*32. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether medicines are not being made available at present to the beneficiaries of the Central Government Health Scheme through Super Bazar;

(b) if so, the reasons there for and

(c) the details of the alternative arrangement(s) made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR) : (a) to (c) Medicines are normally procured from the Medical Stores Organisation and made available to beneficiaries from the dispensaries. Medicines not available in the dispensaries were being indented from the Super Bazar (Connaught Place) prior to 1-4-1991. After 1-4-1991, medicines not available in dispensaries are being procured from private chemists. The change of procedure was effected to avoid hardship to the beneficiaries who had to obtain the medicines from a single outlet of the Super Bazar. Now a number of private chemists have been approved on a zonal basis.

[English]

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANDAL COMMISSION REPORT

*33. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN :

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to adhere to the decision of earlier Government to reserve 27 per cent jobs for the Backward Classes in Union Government Services and Central Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) whether the Government have evolved a clear cut policy for implementation of the recommendations of the Mandal Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c) The Order dated 13-8-90 issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel & Training) providing for 27% reservation of vacancies in civil posts and services of the Govt. of India in favour of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes, based on the recommendations of the Mandal Commission has been challenged through several Writ Petitions which are now being heard by a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has directed that no steps for implementation of the Govt. of India's Order aforementioned except the identification of castes to be benefited, shall be taken until the matter is heard. It has further directed that the scope of the order of 13-8-90 shall not be extended without leave of the Court.

The Government is awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court.

NOISE POLLUTION

35. SRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the major Indian cities are having noise pollution above permissible levels as reported in 'Free Press Journal' dated 16th June 1991;

(b) whether the Government have made any scientific studies to assess the gravity of the problem in the country; if so, the details thereof;

(c) the corrective steps proposed to be taken to control noise pollution in the country with special reference to areas around schools, hospitals and residential areas;

(d) whether it is a fact that the restrictions placed on car horning outside hospitals in Delhi are no longer observed and even sign posts have disappeared; and

(e) if so, the corrective steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to a study conducted by the Central Pollution Control

Board in 1989, noise levels above the prescribed standards were found in a number of areas of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Hederabad, Kanpur, Jaipur and Banglore.

A study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research regarding effect of noise on health reveals that there is a definite increase in the prevalence of sensory neural hearing loss to those who work in noisy areas.

(c) The steps taken and proposed to be taken to control noise pollution in the country include :—

(i) Ambient air quality standards in respect of noise have been prescribed for industrial, commercial, residential and silence zones; separate limits have been set for day and night time ambient noise levels. Noise limits have also been prescribed for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipment, to be adopted at the manufacturing stage. Noise limits for automobiles have to be met by 1992, while those for appliances and equipment are to be met by 1993.

(ii) Codes of practice for controlling noise from sources other than industries and automobiles have been evolved by the Central Pollution Control Board. These include public address systems, aircraft operations and bursting of crackers.

(iii) Declaration of silence zones.

(iv) Regulating the use of loudspeakers.

(v) Restrictions on use of loud and electric horns in vehicles.

(vi) Regulated movement of heavy vehicels; and

(vii) Segregating industries from residential areas.

(d) and (e) Restrictions placed on blowing of horns in the silence zones outside hospitals and schools are being enforced by the Delhi Traffic Police. Sign Boards indicating silence zones to be observed by the vehicles/public are displayed and in the case of any damage they are restored.

[Translation]

DEVELOPMENT OF BAREILLY AS COUNTER MAGNET CITY

*36. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount sanctioned so far for the development of Bareilly as counter magnet city under the National Capital Region; and

(b) the proposed allocation earmarked for the next year ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) No amount has so far been sanctioned.

(b) No decision has been taken on the provision of funds for the development of Bareilly so far.

[English]

EMPLOYMENT TO EDUCATED UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS

*37. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to create employment for educated unemployed youths of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of registered unemployed youths in different categories, Statewise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY) : (a) to (c) The problem of unemployment, including those of the educated unemployed, is one of major concern in the context of the formulation of 8th Five Year Plan. The number of job seekers on live register of Employment Exchanges classified by each educational level as on 31st December 1989 is given in the attached statement.